

NOTE

The Identity of the Genus *Hexaresta* Hering  
(= *Hyponeothermara* Hardy, n. syn.)  
(Diptera: Tephritidae)

Hering (1941, *Siruna Seva* 3: 18) described the monotypic genus *Hexaresta* and its type species *H. juanita* from a single specimen of unknown sex, supposedly from Paramaribo, Surinam. I have examined this specimen, deposited in the collection of the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, through the kindness of Dr. H. Schumann. It is actually the palaetropical species described by Walker (1859, *J. Proc. Linn. Soc. London, Zool.* 3: 119) as *Trypeta multistriga*, which is the type species of *Hyponeothermara* Hardy (1986, *Pacif. Insects Monog.* 42: 71). *Hexaresta* is thus a senior synonym of *Hyponeothermara*, and *juanita* Hering is a junior synonym of *Hexaresta multistriga* (Walker), n. comb.

The holotype of *juanita* is in poor condition, with its thorax broken and its abdomen, most thoracic setae, left foreleg and right hindleg missing. Despite this, it can be clearly recognized as a specimen of *multistriga* because of Hardy's (1986) thorough redescription of the latter. I have also compared the type with a female from New Guinea in the National Museum of Natural History collection which Hardy determined as *multistriga*. The *juanita* type easily runs to *Hyponeothermara* in the key to the genera of Acanthonevrina in Hardy (1986); most of the diagnostic characters in the key, including the shape of the facial carina and the nonsetulose scutellum, can be observed on the *juanita* holotype. Although the thorax is broken, the mesonotal color pattern, which is distinctive of *multistriga*, is also evident in the *juanita* holotype. It differs only slightly from the pattern in Hardy's fig. 44c and that of the female examined; the presutural dark brown spots are slightly

larger and the postsutural spots are fused at the dorsocentral setae. The color of the head agrees closely with Hardy's description; there is no frontal vitta as in *Hexaresta formosa* (Malloch), n. comb., the only other species that Hardy (1986) placed in *Hyponeothermara*. The wings are in good condition and their pattern is almost identical to that of the specimen examined, differing only by the lack of the small marginal hyaline spot between the two large hyaline spots in cell  $r_1$  (compare also fig. 15 of Hering (1941) with fig. 44d of Hardy (1986)). Hardy (1986) states that this spot is variable in *multistriga*. Hering's figure is erroneous in showing the base of cell c dark; it is subhyaline in the *juanita* holotype like most of the rest of the cell.

*Hexaresta multistriga* almost certainly is not native to the Neotropical Region. Hardy (1986) reported its distribution to be Sulawesi, the Moluccas, and New Guinea, and species that he considered closely related, such as *Hexaresta formosa* and the species of *Neothermara* Malloch and *Pseudoneothermara* Hardy, also occur in the Oriental and Australasian Regions. No closely related species are known from the New World. Hering (1941) accurately recorded the data on the label of the holotype of *juanita*, which reads "S. Amerika, Surinam, 5.08, Bezirk [district of] Paramaribo, C. Heller S. V." These data are doubtful, however, unless this species has been introduced into Surinam. More likely, considering the poor condition of the *juanita* holotype, is that it was placed on its present pin after falling off a different one.

I am grateful to A. Freidberg (Tel Aviv Univ.), D. E. Hardy (Univ. of Hawaii), and D. A. Nickle and N. E. Woodley (Systematic

Entomology Laboratory) for reviewing this paper, and to H. Schumann (Humboldt-Universität) for the loan of the holotype of *H. juanita*.

Allen L. Norrbom, *Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, ARS, PSI, % U.S. National Museum, NHB 168, Washington, D.C. 20560.*